

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** A screw anchor comprising:
a deformable central portion in which main longitudinal slots are formed, the main longitudinal slots extending essentially parallel to a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and defining deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongues which lie on opposite sides of the plane and which have a substantially serrated profile; and
secondary longitudinal slots formed in said central portion, wherein each said secondary longitudinal slot defines, on said central portion and with an adjacent main longitudinal slot and/or an adjacent secondary longitudinal slot, respective deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues, the main longitudinal slots and the secondary longitudinal slots being non-equidistantly arranged about the periphery of the screw anchor.
2. **(Cancelled)**
3. **(Cancelled)**
4. **(Currently amended)** A screw anchor as claimed in Claim [[2]]1, wherein each deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue has a substantially serrated profile.
5. **(Cancelled)**
6. **(Previously presented)** A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main

longitudinal slots are spaced apart on said central portion (2).

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said main longitudinal slots comprise four slots which are arranged in two pairs, and wherein each pair of main longitudinal slots are parallel to each other and wherein the pairs of main longitudinal slots are arranged in a mirror image relationship with each other.

9. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 8, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot is located between each pair of main longitudinal slots.

10. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a collar at a first end of said central portion; said collar having an annular flange coaxial with said longitudinal axis.

11. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a number of equally spaced projecting appendixes integral with said collar and extending parallel to said longitudinal axis.

12. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising a head at a second end of said central portion.

13. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising a through hole coaxial with said longitudinal axis; said through hole having, internally, a number of longitudinal ribs parallel to said longitudinal axis.

14. (**Currently amended**) A screw anchor comprising:
deformable, serrated main longitudinal anchoring tongues which are arranged

diametrically opposite one another with respect to a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor; and

secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues arranged in pairs and wherein each secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue is shorter than each main longitudinal anchoring tongue, the main longitudinal anchoring tongues having widths which are wider than widths of the secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues.

15. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in claim 14, wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues are separated by main longitudinal slots which extend essentially parallel to a plane on which the longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues lie on opposite sides of the plane.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (**Currently amended**) A screw anchor comprising:

main longitudinal slots defining serrated main longitudinal tongues wherein each tongue is located on an opposite side of a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies; and

serrated secondary longitudinal slots defining pairs of secondary anchoring tongues wherein the pairs are configured so that the anchoring tongues of each pair are each located on opposite sides of the plane, the main longitudinal slots and the secondary slots being non-uniformly spaced about a periphery of the screw anchor.

18. (Previously presented) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each secondary longitudinal slot has a length which is shorter than a length of the main longitudinal slots.